

## This I Believe

When you hear the words "live life to the fullest", what do you think of? The first thing that comes to my mind is how short our lives are. This year, I am turning fifteen. Fifteen years is a long time, but when I look at the Sec Ones who have just entered my school, I think of the Sec One Orientation I had went through two years ago as if it was just yesterday. Once in a while, I try to imagine the four-year-old me screaming and crawling all over the playground, which is when I realize that time really flies, and once it is gone, there is no looking back..

In school, I'm always complaining about how slowly the clock ticks by and I wonder, when will January ever fast-forward to December? But at the end of the year, who's the person who ends up musing about how fast the year has been? Therefore, I'm striving to do all the things listed down on this piece of paper aptly named "Things to Do before I Die". Basically, it includes travelling around the globe, watching fireworks on the roof of a building, learning how to play a guitar, winning lottery and the like. I still have about 66 things left to be done, but hey, who said I can't dream?

I have a friend I knew since young who has cancer and stays cooped inside her home everyday. I do not see her anymore now, but whenever I run into her mother, looking all troubled with her forehead creased, my usual vigour turns into melancholy. So I think to myself, while a young girl and so many others are desperately fighting for their lives, why should I be someone who remains idle and waste my precious life away? I want to experience the things that only a teenage student can, get my dream job, and after settling down, am able to reminisce about how I've spent my years with affection, so that I will die with no regrets.

I once saw this quote on the Internet, "Life is short, so break the rules, forgive quickly, kiss slowly, love deeply, laugh insanely and never regret anything that made you smile." I think that some of the most important things to living life to the fullest are to appreciate what we have now and always keep an open mind. We can only get to live once, so why not make the best out of it?